Question and Answer Chain node common issues

# Question and Answer Chain node common issues#

Here are some common errors and issues with the Question and Answer Chain node and steps to resolve or troubleshoot them.

## No prompt specified error#

This error displays when the Prompt is empty or invalid.

You might see this in one of two scenarios:

• When you've set the Prompt to Define below and have an expression in your Text that isn't generating a value.  
To resolve, enter a valid prompt in the Text field.  
Make sure any expressions reference valid fields and that they resolve to valid input rather than null.

• To resolve, enter a valid prompt in the Text field.

• Make sure any expressions reference valid fields and that they resolve to valid input rather than null.

• When you've set the Prompt to Connected Chat Trigger Node and the incoming data has null values.  
To resolve, make sure your input contains a chatInput field. Add an Edit Fields (Set) node to edit an incoming field name to chatInput.  
Remove any null values from the chatInput field of the input node.

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chatInput

chatInput

• Remove any null values from the chatInput field of the input node.

chatInput

## A Retriever sub-node must be connected error#

This error displays when n8n tries to execute the node without having a Retriever connected.

To resolve this, click the + Retriever button at the bottom of your screen when the node is open, or click the Retriever + connector when the node isn't open. n8n will then open a selection of possible Retrievers to pick from.

## Can't produce longer responses#

If you need to generate longer responses than the Question and Answer Chain node produces by default, you can try one or more of the following techniques:

• Connect a more verbose model: Some AI models produce more terse results than others. Swapping your model for one with a larger context window and more verbose output can increase the word length of your responses.

• Increase the maximum number of tokens: Many model nodes (for example the OpenAI Chat Model) include a Maximum Number of Tokens option. You can set this to increase the maximum number of tokens the model can use to produce a response.

• Build larger responses in stages: For more detailed answers, you may want to construct replies in stages using a variety of AI nodes. You can use AI split up a single question into multiple prompts and create responses for each. You can then compose a final reply by combining the responses again. Though the details are different, you can find a good example of the general idea in this template for writing a WordPress post with AI.